

## Some notes on 118 S. Main Street, Galena, Illinois

This building fronts on Main Street and backs up to Commerce Street, with Hill Street to the north and Washington Street to the south. It was the site of a bakery from at least 1884, possibly earlier, but it didn't "become" 118 S. Main until about 1900:

CURRENT ADDRESS	WAS ORIGINALLY	LOT NUMBER
118 S. Main	149 Main	19
116 S. Main	151 Main	20

### ***History of Lots 19 and 20***

The Act authorizing the surveyor of public lands to lay off town lots "in the state of Illinois, at and including 'Galena,' on Bean River" was enacted in February 1829. The completed survey was to be returned to the Secretary of the Treasury and within twelve months the tracts would be offered to the highest bidder at a public sale. Town lots were not to exceed one quarter of an acre or sell for less than five dollars.<sup>1</sup>

Lot 19 was purchased by Jacob Benninger and Lot 20 was purchased by Terah B. Farnsworth and George Ferguson. The patent for each describes the lots as "containing, as certified by the Commissioners, ninety-one one thousandths of an acre; and fronting thirty-three feet on Main Street, and running Easternly [*sic*] One hundred and twenty feet." The patents were not issued until 1 March 1856,<sup>2</sup> by which time the original patentees had sold the lots.<sup>3</sup>

- **Benninger** sold all right, title, interest and claim "to a certain Lot or parcel of gr[ound] Known as twenty feet of Lot No. 19 on the Prairie in [the] town of Galena" to **Terah B. Farnsworth and George Ferguson** for \$300 in July 1835.<sup>4</sup> This is standard language when the grantor has a legal claim to land that he doesn't yet own but this is the only one of the pre-March 1856 deeds that includes it.
- **Farnsworth and Ferguson** sold both lots to **Henry Corwith** for \$2950 in November 1844, described as "thirty three (33) feet of ground fronting on the East side of Main Street, and running through to Commerce Street, fronting on Commerce Street thirty three (33) feet, being twenty feet (20) off of the North side of Lot number nineteen (19) and thirteen (13) feet off of the South side of Lot number twenty (20)..."<sup>5</sup> The deeds that followed contain the same description.
- **Henry Corwith** sold the lots to **Nelson Stillman** for \$3000 in May 1850.<sup>6</sup>
- The Executors of **Nelson Stillman** sold the lots to **Louis Sanders and Conrad Henning** for \$3000 in August 1874, with Stillman's widow executing a separate quit claim for \$1000.<sup>7</sup> Conrad Henning and Louis Sanders were business partners and brothers-in-law (Sanders was married to Henning's sister Christina<sup>8</sup>). The deed states that Sanders and Henning and H.F. Miller were then occupying the lots so they had apparently been leasing them from Stillman from at least 1868 — the business directory that year lists Sanders & Henning with a Bakery and

Confectionery at 151 Main Street (Lot 20) and H.F. Miller as a Harness Maker at 149 Main Street (Lot 19).<sup>9</sup>

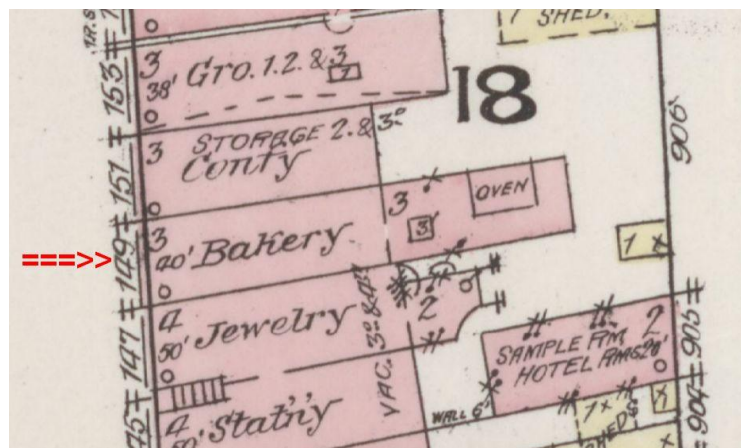
Henning, Sanders and Miller were all living on Main Street in 1870 when the census was taken though their exact addresses aren't provided.<sup>10</sup> A news item from several months earlier suggests that Henning lived at either 151 or 149 Main: "At about two o'clock this morning, Conrad Henning of the firm of Sanders & Henning, discovered a fire in the second story of Silverburg's buildings, Nos. 146 and 148, Main Street... Mr. Henning lives nearly opposite..."<sup>11</sup>

### ***Henning Bakery, the beginning***

The Sanders-Henning partnership was dissolved by mutual consent in September 1882, with Sanders intending to continue the business "at the old stand, 151 Main St."<sup>12</sup> Henning left Galena to work as a baker elsewhere but he returned in 1884 and opened his own bakery at 149 Main:

"In dividing up the property [when the partnership dissolved], Mr. Sanders took the store which the firm were [*sic*] then occupying, where he continued the business. Mr. Henning took the store next door south, and has had it rented most of the time since, while he has been superintending a bakery at Darlington. He has now come home, and has commenced fitting up his store to open out business. **He will erect a building in the rear of the store for a bakery, and will put in a new patent oven**, which is heated with coke, and does better baking than the old style ovens. He will go to Chicago to-morrow to purchase the oven."<sup>13</sup>

An ad for "Henning's New Bakery. No. 149 Main st." appeared in the June 25th issue of the *Galena Daily Gazette*<sup>14</sup> and the bakery with its new building and oven in the rear was shown at that address on the Sanborn fire insurance map the following year (below). It's one door down from the Confectionery,<sup>15</sup> which was still owned by Louis Sanders. The 18 probably refers to the block number.



1885 Sanborn fire insurance map

This is the earliest Sanborn map available for Galena and it raises a question: Sanders & Henning had a *bakery* at 151 Main in 1868, so where was the oven? The 1885 map above shows one at 149 Main, but this was a new oven housed in a new building that was erected in 1884. In fact, none of the fire insurance maps shows an oven at 151 Main though Sanders continued to operate a bakery there.<sup>16</sup>

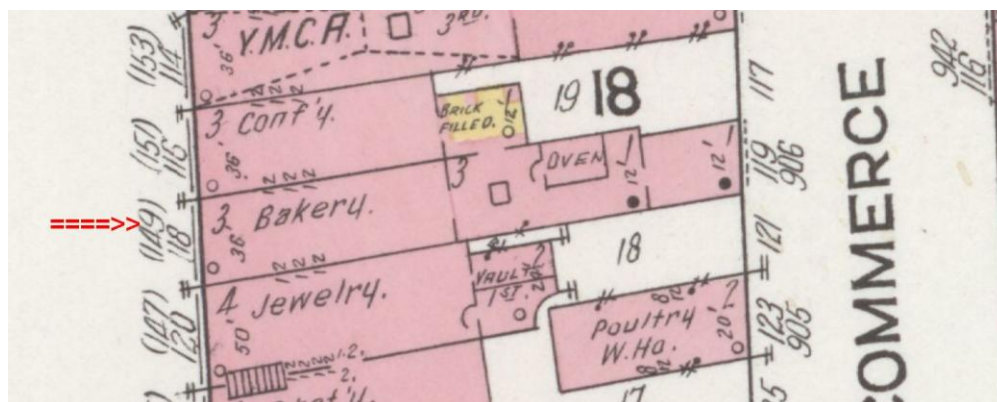
Here is a theory that can be nothing more than conjecture since finding evidence to corroborate or refute it seems unlikely:

- That Sanders & Henning occupied both 149 and 151 Main in 1868 and the latter was their storefront; that the bakery oven was at 149 (H.F. Miller, the harness maker, could presumably have run his business from an upper floor); and that Henning removed it in 1884 when he added the new building and oven.
- That the section of 151 Main St. labeled "Brick filled" on the map below was a masonry oven "consisting of a baking chamber made of fireproof brick, concrete, stone, clay, or cob. Though traditionally wood-fired, coal-fired ovens were common in the 19th century..."<sup>17</sup> This "Brick filled" item was not depicted on the 1885 map but it was on all of the subsequent ones (1893, 1898, 1912).

### ***Change in street numbering***

In about 1900, 149 Main became 118 S. Main and 151 Main became 116 S. Main: "The streets on the West side, running parallel with the river, will be divided at Hill street and designated with the prefix of 'North' or 'South,' viz: North Bench st., South High st., etc., commencing at Hill street with 100 and continuing through the block."<sup>18</sup>

The next available Sanborn fire insurance map after this change is dated 1912 and shows the bakery at 118 S. Main Street,<sup>19</sup> including the addition Henning's heirs built on the rear of the building in 1906.<sup>20</sup> Note the old street number (149) written above 118.



1912 Sanborn fire insurance map

The YMCA was located at 114 S. Main and this address is the subject of the attached "then and now" photos.<sup>21</sup>

## ***Henning Bakery, the next generation***

After Conrad Henning's death in 1899,<sup>22</sup> the business was run by his son Alfred and daughters Anna Henning and Augusta Mahlman.

In 1900, the 19-year-old Alfred was a renter at 118 [S.] Main Street, occupation "Baker." There were four other renters at the same address, two of them bakers and two of them hostlers.<sup>23</sup> The bakery was listed as "C. Henning, 118 S Main st." in the 1900 city directory<sup>24</sup> but as "Hennings Bakery (Alfred C and Miss Anna Henning and Mrs Augusta J Mahlman) 118 S Main" in 1914.<sup>25</sup>

In 1905 Hennings Bakery was a signatory in support of improvements to Main Street consisting of the "macadamizing, the laying of brick crossings, and the construction of a combination curb and gutter along Main street from the intersection of Green street to Perry St. This distance includes three of the principal business blocks of the city..."<sup>26</sup>

In 1915, the bakery was listed at Lot 19 on a tax assessment list, with J.L. (Louis) Sanders listed at Lot 20; the last two columns are "Full Fair Cash Value" and "Assessed Value":<sup>27</sup>

WEST GALENA ASSESSMENT LIST				
(Continued from page 1.)				
Henning, Bakery, n 16 1/2 ft.	19	2910	670	
Sanders, J. L., s 16 1/2 ft . . . . .	20	1740	580	
Felt, Anna E., n 20 ft . . . . .	20	3000	1000	
Millhouse Bros., s 22 ft . . . . .	21	3000	1000	
Millhouse Bros., n 11 ft 21 s				
11 ft . . . . .	22	3000	1000	
Young, George s pt . . . . .	23	2010	670	
Hudson, James, n pt 23 & s pt	24	2010	670	
Sullivan & Caille, n 22 ft . . . .	22	3000	1000	
Caille, Geo. Sr., n 20 ft n pt.	24	4500	1500	
Clattery, W. A. s 20 ft . . . . .	25	2510	810	

Alfred Henning died in May 1928.<sup>28</sup> His sister Anna apparently retired soon thereafter as she reported no occupation in the 1930 and 1940 censuses. Augusta Mahlman still worked at the bakery and her son Frederick managed it, and he continued to do so after his mother's death in 1931.<sup>29</sup> The last specific mention of 118 S. Main was found in Fred Mahlman's February 1942 World War II draft registration, when he reported that he was self-employed and gave it as his work address.<sup>30</sup> Fred died in Phoenix, Arizona in 1970.<sup>31</sup>

The 1950 census won't be released until 2022, and other sources that might provide information on the bakery or its owners in the mid- to late 1900s aren't available online, i.e., deeds for this county go through 1902; local newspapers through 1929; the latest Sanborn map is 1912; and the latest city directory available online is 1914 though the local library holds other editions.<sup>32</sup>

Attachments (separate file; includes items that were previously provided):

1. Act authorizing laying out of Galena town lots, 1829
2. Patents: (a) Jacob Benninger; (b) Terah B. Farnsworth and George Ferguson
3. Deeds: (a) Benninger to Farnsworth & Ferguson; (b) Farnsworth & Ferguson to Corwith; (c) Corwith to Stillman; (d) Stillman Exrs to Sanders and Henning
4. 1868 directory: (a) Sanders & Henning; (b) H.F. Miller
5. 1870 census: Henning, Sanders and Miller on Main St.
6. 1870 and 1874 News items: Main St. fire; Sanders & Henning ad
7. 1884 News items: Conrad Henning's return to Galena; Henning's New Bakery ad
8. 1885 Sanborn fire insurance map
9. 1900 city directory: (a) street number changes; (b) C. Henning bakery
10. 1900 census, Alfred Henning
11. 1906 News item: addition to rear of bakery
12. 1912 Sanborn fire insurance map
13. Then and Now photos: 116 S Main
14. 1914 city directory
15. 1930 census, Henning and Mahlmans
16. Fred Mahlman's WWII draft registration, 1942
17. Other news items: Flood damage, 1892

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Congress, *The Public Statutes at Large of the United States of America, 1789-1873*, 17 vols. (Washington, D.C.: [various publishers], 1845-1873), 4: 334, 5 February 1829, "An Act authorizing the laying off of a town on Bean river, in the state of Illinois, and for other purposes," chap. 15.

<sup>2</sup> Bureau of Land Management, "Land Patent Search," database, digital images, *General Land Office Records* (<https://glorerecords.blm.gov/PatentSearch> : accessed 11 July 2021), Jacob Benninger (Jo Daviess County, Illinois), Document Number 27; and Terah B. Farnsworth and George Ferguson, same county, Document Number 65.

<sup>3</sup> There is conflicting information between records in terms of the original patentees that can't be sorted out without examining the original BLM land entry files from the National Archives and the actual sales records from which the database entries were transcribed at *Illinois Public Domain Land Tract Sales* (<https://apps.ilsos.gov/isa/landsrch.jsp>). I can lay out the inconsistencies for you in a separate document if you want this.

<sup>4</sup> Jo Daviess County, Illinois Deed Book B, p. 120, digital images, FamilySearch.org (<https://www.familysearch.org>), image 871; 1 July 1835, Jacob and Margaret Binniger to Terah B. Farnsworth and George Ferguson, \$300. Inexplicably, there is also a deed where Jacob and his wife sold their right and title in Lot 20 in whole (no qualifiers as with Lot 19) to Farnsworth and Ferguson on 6 April 1835, same deed book, p. 87, image 854, \$550. This conflicts with both the BLM and the state public land sales records showing Farnsworth and Ferguson as the original purchasers of Lot 20 from the federal government and reinforces what was stated in Note 3.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., Deed Book G, p. 149, image 402; 9 November 1844, Terah B. Farnsworth and George and Virginia Ferguson to Henry Corwith, \$2950.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid., Deed Book O, pp. 386-387, image 15; 23 May 1850, Henry and Isabella Corwith to Nelson Stillman, \$3000.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid., Deed Book 40, pp. 20-21, image 133; 24 August 1874, Exrs of Nelson Stillman to Louis Sanders and Conrad Henning for \$3,000. On 31 August 1874, Louise Stillman, widow, separately executed a quit claim deed for \$1,000.

<sup>8</sup> Conrad and Christina were both born in Hesse, Germany to Ewald Henning and Martha Zimmerman: "Germany, Lutheran Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials, 1500-1971," database, Ancestry.com (<https://www.ancestry.com> : 2016). The Ewald Henning family was on a ship passenger list arriving to New York from Bremen, Germany in 1856; Konrad was 20 and Christine was 8 ("New York, U.S., Arriving Passenger and Crew Lists (including Castle Garden and Ellis Island), 1820-1957," digital images, Ancestry.com : 2010). Christina married Louis Sanders in Jo Daviess County in 1867 ("Illinois, U.S., County Marriage Records, 1800-1940," database, Ancestry.com : 2016).

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<sup>9</sup> Business Directory of Jo Daviess County, Illinois, 1868, "U.S., City Directories, 1822-1995," database with images, Ancestry.com : 2011, pp. 72, 74, 76.

<sup>10</sup> 1870 U.S. census, Jo Daviess County, Illinois, population schedule, Galena, p. 2 (penned), dwelling 12, family 12, Conrad Henning; digital image, Ancestry.com : 2009, citing NARA microfilm publication M593, roll 234. Louis Sanders is in the dwelling numbered 13, followed by Henry F. Miller at 14 (dwelling numbers were arbitrary, assigned by the census taker to show the order of visitation along his route).

<sup>11</sup> *Galena Daily Gazette*, 4 February 1870, p. 3, col. 2; digital image, Illinois Digital Newspaper Collections (<https://idnc.library.illinois.edu/> : 2021). All *Galena Daily Gazette* items cited in the current review were retrieved from this site in April and July 2021.

<sup>12</sup> "Notice," *Galena Daily Gazette*, 5 September 1882, p. 3, col. 4.

<sup>13</sup> "Another New Enterprise in Galena," *Galena Daily Gazette*, 15 May 1884, p. 3, col. 4. Interestingly, the 1880 census shows Conrad Henning and family living on Main Street in Galena, dwelling number 2, but again, the actual address is not recorded.

<sup>14</sup> *Galena Daily Gazette*, 25 June 1884, p. 3, col. 2.

<sup>15</sup> Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Galena, Jo Daviess County, Illinois, August 1885, p. 4; Library of Congress (<https://www.loc.gov/resource/g4104gm.g018791912/?sp=6&r=0.137,0.45,0.187,0.074,0>). Years available for Galena are 1885, 1893, 1898 and 1912.

<sup>16</sup> He was listed under Bakers and Confectioners at 116 S. Main in the 1914 city directory and his obituary states that he started his business in 1865 and maintained it at the same location until his death (*Galena Daily Gazette*, 31 December 1928, p. 3, col. 4). Whether the bakery itself was at 149 or 151 Main St. in the early years remains open to question.

<sup>17</sup> "Masonry oven," Wikipedia.com ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Masonry\\_oven](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Masonry_oven) : last edited on 21 May 2021, at 03:55 (UTC)).

<sup>18</sup> Galena, Illinois, City Directory, 1900, "U.S., City Directories, 1822-1995," Ancestry.com; "Introduction."

<sup>19</sup> Sanborn Fire Insurance Map from Galena, Jo Daviess County, Illinois, October 1912, p. 6; Library of Congress.

<sup>20</sup> *Galena Daily Gazette*, 3 May 1906, p. 3, col. 1.

<sup>21</sup> *Galena Public Library District* (<https://www.galenalibrary.org/online/historical/historic-galena-then-now/>).

<sup>22</sup> "Death of Conrad Henning," *Galena Daily Gazette*, 1 May 1899, p. 3 col. 5. He has a memorial page at Findagrave.com (<https://www.findagrave.com>), memorial no.146719588 and a copy of his obituary has been posted there.

<sup>23</sup> 1900 U.S. census, Jo Daviess County, Illinois, population schedule, West Galena, enumeration district (ED) 0047, p. 230 (stamped), visited no. 73, family no. 77, Alfred Henning; citing NARA microfilm publication T623, roll no. not stated. Alfred was captured in the same census in the household of his widowed mother Elizabeth, probably a reporting error as census taker instructions were to enumerate who was living in the home on June 1st regardless of the date he visited the home, so only one of these can be true.

<sup>24</sup> Galena, Illinois, City Directory, 1900, "U.S., City Directories, 1822-1995," Ancestry.com p. [48].

<sup>25</sup> Galena, Illinois, City Directory, 1914, "U.S., City Directories, 1822-1995," Ancestry.com, p. 131.

<sup>26</sup> *Galena Daily Gazette*, 13 May 1905, p. 1, col. 2.

<sup>27</sup> *Ibid.*, 9 July 1915, p. 2, col. 2.

<sup>28</sup> *Ibid.*, 16 May 1928, p. 3, col. 1; also, "Cook County, Illinois Death Index, 1908-1988," database, Ancestry.com : 2008; Albert died at the Presbyterian Hospital in Chicago according to his estate file and there were several news items about his hospitalization in the weeks leading up to his death.

<sup>29</sup> "Iowa, U.S., Death Records, 1920-1967," digital images, Ancestry.com : 2017. Augusta J. Mahlman of Galena, Illinois, died at the hospital in Dubuque, Iowa, after a stay of seven days.

<sup>30</sup> "U.S., World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942," digital image, Ancestry.com : 2010, card for Frederick H. Mahlman, registered 26 February 1942, Local Draft Board 1, Galena, Jo Daviess County, Illinois.

<sup>31</sup> *Arizona Republic (Phoenix, Ariz.)*, 25 Sep 1970, p. 39, col. 8; digital image, GenealogyBank.com (<https://www.genealogy.com> : accessed 12 July 2021); his death notice mentions his sister Lenore Mahlman, who was a resident of Phoenix at the time but died in Galena in 1979 (*Register Star* (Rockford, Ill.) 24 March 1979, p. 4 col. 4, same site and access date). Fred is buried in East Dubuque, Illinois, Findagrave.com memorial no. 131603209.

<sup>32</sup> The following years are reportedly available at the Galena Public Library: 1847, 1848, 1854, 1855-1856, 1858-1859, 1868, 1873-1874, 1914 (Lorraine X. Page, *The Genealogy of Galena*, p. vii).